

**AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION:**

**Please amend the paragraph beginning on page 4, line 24, as follows:**

~~Claim~~ Aspect 1 of the present invention is to provide a flower thinning agent which comprises a preparation of a mixture of an inorganic compound of poor water solubility with an additive, satisfying the following relationships of (a), (b) and (c):

(a)  $0.03 \leq P \leq 30$

(b)  $3 \leq Q \leq 800$

(c)  $0.5 \leq Q/P \leq 1000$

**Please amend the paragraph beginning on page 5, line 10, as follows:**

~~Claim~~ Aspect 2 of the present invention is to provide a flower thinning agent which comprises a preparation of a mixture of an inorganic compound of poor water solubility with an additive, satisfying the following relationships (d), (e) and (f):

(d)  $0.03 \leq P \leq 10$

(e)  $7 \leq Q \leq 300$

(f)  $0.5 \leq Q/P \leq 300$

**Please amend the paragraph beginning on page 5, line 21, as follows:**

~~Claim~~ Aspect 3 of the present invention is to provide a flower thinning agent which comprises a preparation of a mixture of an inorganic compound of poor water solubility with an additive, satisfying the following relationships (g), (h) and (i):

$$(g) 0.03 \leq P \leq 5$$

$$(h) 10 \leq Q \leq 200$$

$$(i) 1 \leq Q/P \leq 150$$

**Please amend the paragraph beginning on page 6, line 7, as follows:**

~~Claim~~ Aspect 4 of the present invention is to provide a flower thinning agent according to any one of claims 1 to 3, which comprises a preparation of a mixture of an inorganic compound of poor water solubility with an additive, satisfying the following relationships of (j), (k) and (l):

$$(j) 0.5 \leq D_{ys} \leq 10$$

$$(k) 0.002 \leq D_{xs} \leq 10$$

$$(l) 0.5 \leq D_{ys}/D_{xs} \leq 300$$

**Please amend the paragraph beginning on page 6, line 18, as follows:**

~~Claim~~ Aspect 5 of the present invention is to provide a flower thinning agent according to any one of claims 1 to 4, wherein the inorganic compound of poor water solubility is at least one kind selected from silicate mineral, calcium carbonate, zeolite, magnesium carbonate, and

magnesium phosphate.

**Please amend the paragraph beginning on page 6, line 22, as follows:**

~~Claim~~ Aspect 6 of the present invention is to provide a flower thinning agent according to any one of claims 1 to 4, wherein the inorganic compound of poor water solubility is at least one kind selected from silicate mineral, zeolite, and magnesium phosphate.

**Please amend the paragraph beginning on page 7, line 1, as follows:**

~~Claim~~ Aspect 7 of the present invention is to provide a flower thinning agent which comprises a preparation of a mixture of an inorganic compound of poor water solubility comprising calcium phosphate with an additive, satisfying the following relationships of (a), (e), (m) and (n):

(a)  $0.03 \leq P \leq 30$

(e)  $3 \leq Q \leq 300$

(m)  $0.01 \leq R \leq 30$

(n)  $0.5 \leq S \leq 300$

**Please amend the paragraph beginning on page 7, line 19, as follows:**

~~Claim~~ Aspect 8 of the present invention is to provide a flower thinning agent which comprises a preparation of a mixture of an inorganic compound of poor water solubility comprising

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calcium phosphate with an additive, satisfying the following relationships of (a), (e), (o) and (t):

(a)  $0.03 \leq P \leq 30$

(e)  $3 \leq Q \leq 300$

(o)  $0.01 \leq R \leq 10$

(t)  $0.5 \leq S \leq 100$

**Please amend the paragraph beginning on page 8, line 12, as follows:**

~~Claim~~ Aspect 9 of the present invention is to provide a flower thinning agent which comprises a preparation of a mixture of an inorganic compound of poor water solubility comprising calcium phosphate with an additive, satisfying the following relationships of (a), (e), (u) and (v) :

(a)  $0.03 \leq P \leq 30$

(e)  $3 \leq Q \leq 300$

(u)  $0.01 \leq R \leq 5$

(v)  $0.5 < S \leq 10$

**Please amend the paragraph beginning on page 9, line 5, as follows:**

~~Claim~~ Aspect 10 of the present invention is to provide a flower thinning agent according to any one of claims 1 to 9, wherein the additive is at least one kind selected from condensed phosphoric acid and a salt thereof, lecithin, sterol, amino acid, and sucrose fatty acid ester.

**Please amend the paragraph beginning on page 9, line 9, as follows:**

~~Claim Aspect~~ 11 of the present invention is to provide a flower thinning agent according to any one of claims 1 to 10, wherein an amount of the additive is 0.005 to 200 parts by weight per 100 parts by weight of the inorganic compound of poor water solubility.

**Please delete the paragraphs from page 53, line 7, to page 53, line 25, as follows:**

~~Application Example 64~~

~~Using a pear (Kosui) tree, flower thinning effect was confirmed. That is, using the aforementioned pear tree, the flower thinning agent of Example 1 was spread at a concentration indicated in Table 10 two times, at a flowering rate of 30% and 80%. In this respect, at the present experiment, an air temperature at flowering was low, and weather was bad. Therefore, a scatter in flowering was greater than usual. An effective ingredient concentration was based on a solid matter weight of an inorganic compound of poor water solubility. Treatment was every branch treatment, and the agent was spread with a back loading sprayer.~~

~~Assessment was expressed as a remaining fruit rate relative to the number of flowering. Regarding medicine damage, results of observation of a leaf state such as defoliation, discolored leaf and deformed leaf were expressed by the following five stages. Results are shown in Table 9:~~

~~⊖: Normal~~

~~⊙: Extremely small damage~~

~~□: Small damage~~

~~△: Intermediate damage~~

~~\*: Great damage~~

**Please insert the following paragraphs beginning on page 56, line 1:**

#### Application Example 64

Using a pear (Kosui) tree, flower thinning effect was confirmed. That is, using the aforementioned pear tree, the flower thinning agent of Example 1 was spread at a concentration indicated in Table 10 two times, at a flowering rate of 30% and 80%. In this respect, at the present experiment, an air temperature at flowering was low, and weather was bad. Therefore, a scatter in flowering was greater than usual. An effective ingredient concentration was based on a solid matter weight of an inorganic compound of poor water solubility. Treatment was every branch treatment, and the agent was spread with a back loading sprayer.

Assessment was expressed as a remaining fruit rate relative to the number of flowering. Regarding medicine damage, results of observation of a leaf state such as defoliation, discolored leaf and deformed leaf were expressed by the following five stages. Results are shown in Table 9.

: Normal

○: Extremely small damage

□: Small damage

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$\Delta$ : Intermediate damage

$\times$ : Great damage